

JULY 8, 2013

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES

ROBERT E. AUFULDISH, PRESIDENT
JUDY MORAN, COMMISSIONER
DANIEL P. TROY, COMMISSIONER
AMY ELSZASZ, CLERK

JASON W. BOYD, ADMINISTRATOR
LEGAL COUNSEL
JOEL DIMARE, BUDGET DIRECTOR

(Tape 2013-0708)

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Aufuldish called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm, Monday July 8, 2013.

ROLL CALL: Upon the roll being called all were present.

The Commissioners reviewed the jail facilities analysis with Chief Deputy Frank Leonbruno of the Sheriff's Office. Many factors were discussed, including the rise in jail population, the deterioration of the current facility and its piping systems behind walls, the changes in sentencing and the potential for regionalization of services to work with Lake County entities. The jail has averaged 350 inmates per day since September. Thirty-six beds were added to allow for more in the facility after closing the minimum security facility.

The Commissioners and Chief Leonbruno discussed causes for the rise in the prison population. The jail population averages felons, 1/3 misdemeanants, more serious drug incarcerations. The Courts have worked hard to reduce the population by adopting alternative sentencing programs. The State of Ohio changed the requirements so that fourth degree felons and non-violent third degree felons must be retained at the county. Everyone who goes to state prison comes through a county facility. They are intermixed in our population.

Burglaries, drugs, mental health issues are the complex issues there are no easy answers to. Jails have created many programs to change behaviors, that tie medication management, helped maintain population that has not skyrocketed. The facility was not designed to house the number of female inmates necessary.

The average stay at the jail is 23-27 days; 10 years ago it was 17 days; inmates can serve up to one year at county. Projections indicate that the jail population will grow to 550.

Chief Leonbruno said that in 1987, we were told to build for 350 inmates and never thought we'd get there. He suggested the potential of conducting all video arraignments for all courts in the county from the Lake County jail.

Commissioner Troy agreed that we could consolidate and that regionalization could reduce costs to county residents as a whole and maximize shared services to make criminal justice services more efficient by potentially consolidating the detective bureau, evidence, fingerprinting and probation.

Chief Leonbruno reviewed jail statistics contributing to the needs for a larger capacity jail.: US jail population in 1925=125,000; 1960=220,000; 1980-600,000; Now, 23 years later- 2.4 million incarcerated, 6 million on probation or parole. He indicated that the trends seem to show increases. He suggested that the projections for the future 20 years is based on the prior 20 years.

From 2009 to 2011, the jail population declined, enabling the misdemeanants to be redirected to the jail after closing of the Minimum Security Facility.

Commissioner Troy said that the projections are close to a 60% increase, from 350-550 and asked if the crime rate will actually increase at that rate?

Chief Leonbruno provided additional statistics- in 1990-there were 110 inmates; 20 years later, the average daily population was 350 inmates, which represents roughly a 3-400% increase has our crime rate gone up 400%-I can't answer that.

Commissioner Aufuldish reiterated that the present facility continues to deteriorate and Chief Leonbruno agreed that the jail is in great disrepair.

County Administrator Jason Boyd said some short-term decisions were necessary regarding the issues the Buildings and Grounds responds to each day.

Commissioner Aufuldish asked the Buildings and Grounds superintendent Chuck Klco what the County spends each year for maintenance and repairs to the current jail. Chuck Klco responded, roughly \$300,000-\$500,000. Some of the issues addressed have included sprinklers, roofing, flooding because of lack of floor drains, deterioration of pipes, tiling, new membranes, ADA upgrades of some of the showers for wheelchair access.

Commissioner Troy said that when the Board moves forward, he would like as many stakeholders as possible in support of the project. Commissioner Aufuldish and Chief Leonbruno confirmed that Sheriff Dunlap has been very active on the subject.

Jason Boyd said that the location of a potential new jail has an impact on our other facilities, that the jail is the catalyst. Mr. Boyd said that over the next few weeks, the administration will continue to analyze the results of the jail facility analysis because it will play into the next analysis of county-wide facilities.

Mr. Boyd told the Board that we now know what we have and don't have. A similar document on the other county facilities should be completed by the end of year. We have the proper leadership. We know our assets, we know what we need to address right now and we know what we can push back.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: at 3:46 pm On a motion of Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Troy, the Board convened an Executive Session at pm to discuss a personnel employment matter, with the vote as follows: "AYES": Commissioners: Aufuldish, Moran and Troy "NAYS": None

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On a motion of Commissioner Moran seconded by Commissioner Troy, the Board terminated the Executive Session at 3:58 pm, with the vote as follows:

"AYES": Commissioners: Aufuldish, Moran and Troy "NAYS": None

ADJOURN: On a motion of Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner Troy, the Board adjourned the meeting at 3:58 pm, with the vote as follows:

"AYES": Commissioners: Aufuldish, Moran and Troy "NAYS": None

Minutes approved this twenty-ninth day of August, 2013.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ROBERT E. AUFULDISH, PRESIDENT

JUDY MORAN, COMMISSIONER

DANIEL P. TROY, COMMISSIONER

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